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Hartlepool Port Health Authority

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER

OF HEALTH

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For the Year Ended 31st December 1967

By H. C. MILLIGAN

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Hartlepool Port Health Authority

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ANNUAL REPORT

HARTLEPOOL

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the County Borough of Hartlepool.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the work of the Port Health Authority for the year ended 31st December, 1967.

Consequent on the amalgamation of the former County Borough of West Hartlepool and the Borough of Hartlepool to form the new County Borough of Hartlepool on the 1st April, 1967, the former Hartlepool Port Health Authority ceased to exist and its functions were taken over and devolved upon the Health Committee of the new County Borough Council. The report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health.

There has been a decrease in the number and tonnage of vessels entering the port and there has been a decrease in imports. However, the exports did increase and the total traffic of the port is slightly higher than the previous year.

There has been no case of infectious disease in the port during the year.

Work under the International Sanitary Regulations, 1951 has resulted in the issue of 33 deratting exemption certificates. Five rodent control certificates were also issued. The standard of cleanliness of crews' accommodation on ships using the port is generally very good, and the nuisances which have been abated were of a minor character and have been dealt with promptly.

There are three exploratory oil rig operators using the facilities of the port. The helicopter landing pad installed by the Shell Oil Company has been used only infrequently during the past year.

The scope of this report covers not only the nine months of the new authority but also the last three months work of the former Hartlepool Port Health Authority and I welcome this opportunity of thanking Lt. Commander R. J. Knott, M.B.E., R.N.R., former Port Health Inspector for his work and for the assistance which he gave to the Department at the time of the amalgamation. I would also like to thank Dr. Crabb and am happy to have him continue to work in association with us in the work of the new authority. I would also like to thank the Chief Preventive Officer of H.M. Customs and his staff, Captain D. M. McLean and his Assistant Dockmasters, the Ministry of Transport Surveyor, H.M. Immigration Officers and also the Pilot Master and Pilots for their helpful co-operation with the officials of the authority.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. C. MILLIGAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health
and Port Medical Officer.

PORT OF HARTLEPOOL — Section I.—Staff

The Hartlepool County Borough Council made the following appointments on taking over responsibility as Port Health Authority on 1st April, 1967:—

TABLE A.

Name of Official	Nature of Appoint'nt	Date of App'nt	Qualifications	Any other Appointments held
H. C. MILLIGAN	Port Medical Officer of Health	1.4.67	M.B. Ch.B. D.P.H.	Medical Officer of Health, County Borough of Hartlepool.
J.C.WALKER	Deputy Port Medical Officer of Health	1.4.67 Resigned 31.8.67	M.B. Ch.B. D.P.H.	Deputy Medical Officer of Health, County Borough of Hartlepool
J. CRABB	Assistant Port Medical Officer of Health (Part-time)	1.4.67	M.R.C.S. L.R.C.P. D.T.M. & H.	General Practitioner
R. EMERSON	Port Health Inspector	1.4.67	M.R.S.H. F.A.P.H.I.	Chief Public Health Inspector, County Borough of Hartlepool.
G. A. WARD	Deputy Port Health Inspector	1.4.67	M.A.P.H.I.	Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector, County Borough of Hartlepool
J.F. PERKINS	District Public Health Inspector (Port)	1.4.67		

All the Authority's Public Health Inspectors are authorised to act under the Public Health (Ships) Regulations 1966.

Address and Telephone Numbers of the Medical Officer of Health

Office: Health Department, 32 Victoria Road, Hartlepool. Telephone: Hartlepool 3487
Residence: "Culcrieff", Conisclifte Road, Hartlepool. Telephone: Hartlepool 4929

Address and Telephone Numbers of the Port Health Inspector

Office: Health Department, 32 Victoria Road, Hartlepool. Telephone: Hartlepool 3487
Residence: 150 Elwick Road, Hartlepool. Telephone: Hartlepool 67278

SECTION II.—Amount of Shipping Entering the District during the Year.

Table B.

Ships	No.	Tonnage	Number inspected		Number of ships reported as having or having had, during the voyage, infectious disease on board
			By the Port M.O. of Health	By the Port Health Inspector	
Foreign	270	292,292	44	259	Nil
Coastwise	627	471,217	29	370	Nil
Total	897	763,509	73	629	Nil

SECTION III—Character of Shipping and Trade during the Year.

Table C.

Passenger Traffic :	Number of Passengers INWARDS :	British 58	Alien 122	Total 180
	Number of Passengers OUTWARDS	British 35	Alien 102	Total 137
Cargo Traffic :	Principal IMPORTS :	Pit props, Timber, Sleepers, Paper and wood pulp, Iron ore, Steel coils, Flour, Liquid gas, Chemicals, Oil, Oil rig equipment.		
	Principal EXPORTS :	Coal and coke, Magnesite, Iron and steel, including scrap, Limestone, Dolime, Barley.		
Principal Ports from which Ships arrive	Leningrad, Gdansk and other Baltic ports, Port Etienne, Narvik, Murmansk, Rotterdam, Slagen.			

SECTION IV—Inland Barge Traffic.

There is no such traffic.

SECTION V—Water Supply.

1 Source of Water: The port is supplied by the Hartlepools Water Company, and is of excellent quality.

2 Reports of Tests for Contamination: Regular sampling is carried out at the port and on shore as shown in the Chief Public Health Inspector's report.

3 Precautions taken against contamination of Hydrants and Hosepipes: Hydrants are covered when not in use and hoses are properly stored.

4 Number and Sanitary Conditions of Water Boats and Powers of Control by the Authority: Nil

SECTION VI—Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1966

1 List of Infected Areas (Regulation 6).

As soon as the World Health Organisation's weekly epidemiological record is received, an abstract is made of any information likely to affect the port and this is sent to H.M. Customs Officers for the information of these officials and pilots.

2 Radio Messages.

(a) Permission by radio for vessels to enter the port is sent through the Harbour Master's office and Cullercoats radio station.

(b) This port has been included by the Minister of Health on the list of "Radio Receiving Ports" and messages sent to "Portelth, Hartlepool" are sent directly to the Health Department or to the home of the Deputy Port Health Inspector.

3 Notification otherwise than by radio.

(a) Arrangements have been made for the notification to the Port Health Inspector by the Customs of any ship requiring special medical attention on arrival in the port. Shipping agents also notify when they have received messages of sickness on board a ship which is expected to arrive in the port. The pilots place at the disposal of the Medical Officer their launch to take him to a vessel entering the port if such a course is necessary.

(b) All vessels from foreign ports except those on regular short voyages are boarded by a Port Health Inspector. All ships that arrive from any foreign port that is included in a list prepared under Regulation 6 are visited by a Medical Officer if possible on arrival. The Customs Officers advise the Port Health Inspector daily of all ships due to arrive at the port. In the event of no Port Health Inspector being immediately available the Customs Officer receives the Declaration of Health for collection by the Port Health Inspector.

4 Mooring Stations.
The mooring station established by the Authority with the concurrence of the Customs Officers and Harbour Master is at the buoys in the outer harbour. There is no mooring station within the docks.

5 Arrangements for—
(a) Hospital Accommodation for Infectious Diseases (other than smallpox)
Brierton Hospital, Brierton Lane, Hartlepool.

(b) Surveillance and follow-up of Contacts.
Contacts remaining on board are kept under observation by the Medical Officer of Health, and on the vessel leaving information is forwarded to the next port of call. Contacts leaving the ship are ordered to report to the Medical Officer of the town to which they are proceeding and the names and addresses of such contacts are forwarded to the Medical Officer of the town to which the contacts are proceeding.

(c) Cleansing and Disinfection
Disinfection of quarters in the case of infectious disease can be carried out by the Public Health Department staff.

SECTION VII—Smallpox

1 Hospital
By arrangements of the Regional Hospital Board the smallpox hospital for the area is Langley Park Hospital, Langley Park, Co. Durham.

2 Transport
Ambulances are provided by the Department's Ambulance Service.

3 Smallpox Consultant.
Dr. J. B. Robinson, Brierton Hospital, Brierton Lane, Hartlepool.

4 Facilities for Laboratory Diagnosis of Smallpox.
Specimens would be sent to Dr. J. H. Hale, Institute of Pathology, General Hospital, Westgate Road, Newcastle upon Tyne. (Newcastle 38811 Extension 297).

SECTION VIII—Venereal Diseases

Merchant seamen are able to have treatment for Venereal Disease at the following places at the times stated:

General Hospital, Hartlepool.	Males—Mondays to Fridays 5—6 p.m.
General Hospital, West Lane, Middlesbrough.	Mondays to Fridays 9—12 noon 2—5 p.m.
Stockton & Thornaby Hospital, Bowesfield Lane, Stockton-on-Tees.	Mondays to Fridays 4—6 p.m.

Any requiring in-patient treatment would be accommodated at the General Hospital, West Lane, Middlesbrough.

Cards giving information of the places and times at which treatment for Venereal Disease can be had are delivered on board ships by the Inspector.

SECTION IX—Cases of Notifiable and other Infectious Diseases on Ships

Table D.

No cases of notifiable or other infectious diseases have been found.

SECTION X—Observations on the occurrence of Malaria in Ships.

There have been no cases of malaria on ships in or arriving at the port.

SECTION XI—Measures taken against Ships Infected with or Suspected for Plague.

There have been no such ships in the port.

SECTION XII—Measures against Rodents in Ships from Foreign Ports.

1 Procedure for inspection of Ships for Rats.

Regular inspections of ships are carried out by Port Health Inspectors and Rodent Officers.

Arrangements for the Bacteriological or Pathological Examinations of Rodents.

Post-mortem examinations can be carried out by the Port Health Inspector. The Public Health Laboratory Service at Middlesbrough is available for bacteriological and pathological examinations.

3 Arrangements for Deratting of Ships.
In the case of a minor infestation on a ship holding a valid deratting or deratting exemption certificate, the rodent officer carries out trapping or poisoning or both.

Deratting for the issue of a Deratting Certificate is done with cyanide by private contractors.

Firms who undertake fumigations are :
Rentokil Ltd., South Shields.
Contra-pest Ltd., South Shields.

4 Progress in the Rat-proofing of Ships.
Generally satisfactory.

Table E.

Rodents destroyed during the year in Ships from Foreign Ports.

Category	Number
Black rats	6
Brown rats	Nil
Species not known	Nil
Sent for examination	2
Infected with plague	Nil

Table F.

Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates issued during the year for ships from foreign ports

No. of Deratting Certificates issued					No. of Deratting Exemption Certificates issued	Total Certificates issued
After fumigation with		After Trapping	After Poisoning	Total		
H.C.N.	Other fumigant (state method)					
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	18	18

In addition, 15 Deratting Exemption Certificates and 5 Rodent Control Certificates were issued to coastwise vessels.

SECTION XIII—Inspection of Ships for nuisances

Table G.

Inspections and Notices—

Nature and No. of inspections	Notices served		Result of serving notices
	Statutory notices	Other notices	
629	Nil	13 verbal	13 complied with

The nuisances and sanitary defects consisted mainly of foul water closets etc.

SECTION XIV—Public Health (Shell-fish) Regulations, 1943 and 1948

There are no shell-fish beds or layings under the jurisdiction of the Authority.

SECTION XV—Medical Inspection of Aliens.

This is not an approved port for the landing of aliens.

SECTION XVI—Food Inspection.

The only food imported during the year was flour to be used for manufacturing purposes.

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